



# THE EDITORS' PAGE

Dear Readers:

As the New Year gets well under way, the Editors acknowledge with sincere thanks the excellent cooperation they have received from you during the past year.

New opportunities are being taken advantage of and new resolutions are being put into effect. Your Editors resolve for 1942 that they will make each issue of BLUE BOLT even better than the one before. They also resolve that BLUE BOLT will do its part toward injecting a ray of sunshine in any dark clouds that might be hovering overhead by giving you more real humor in the editorial content of the magazine.

Here's wishing you all the best of luck and a banner 1942.

Cordially yours, THE EDITORS

### LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Dear Editors:

I enjoy Dick Cole because he is different from other comic strips because he is not a sissy at one time and brave at another time. The artist draws him neatly and the stories are interesting. I think he belongs up with the other comic leaders.

Yours truly, William Barbato New Haven, Connecticut

-(You are one of Dick's many admirers, William. Our comic poll still renks Dick Cole "tops.")

Dear Sirs:

I have been reading BLUE BOLT very often and I think Dick Cole is even better than before, now that Simba and Dick are friends. The one feature I don't like is the White Rider and Super Horse. It is nothing but cowboy stuff and old fashioned. I think Old Cap Hawkins' Tales would be better if it were longer and would tell about pirates like Sir Frances Drake or like the battle of Lake Erie—something that hardly anybody knows. Another feature I like is Phantom Sub now that the Sub can fly, I am never going to miss BLUE BOLT.

Respectfully yours, Leo Hayes Cleveland, Ohio —(The Editors will seriously consider pepping up Super Horse, Leo, and Old Cap Hawkins should now meet with your approval.)

Dear Editors: Of Ye Editors' Page:

How about making Dick Cole and Edison Bell longer? It seems only the boys write and say how much they enjoy your book and so I am writing for girls. I also like inventing things and enjoy making articles in Edison Bell. Dick Cole stories are very interesting and not too exaggerated—making it swell reading.

A Comic Reader, Gladys Weil Brooklyn, N. Y.

—(See 4MOST Comics for 30 pages of Dick Cale, Gladys. It is true that girl readers write less often, but they hold their own in the quality of their letters.)

Dear Editors:

The boys YMCA by my house had a play in which we had to have a periscope. I was wondering what to use. Then a friend gave me a copy of BLUE BOLT which I enjoyed very much. I made the Edison Bell periscope and it worked like a charm. The YMCA started making them in the handicraft club ever ofter.

Tom Evans Detroit, Michigan

-(We are glad to have been of help to your play and to your club, Tom.)

Dear Editors:

I have just finished reading the December issue of BLUE BOLT and I think Dick Cole was swell. I want to congratulate you on your covers; they are excellent. The only character I do not like in BLUE BOLT is White Rider and Superhorse. I think it would be a good idea to leave out White Rider and leave Superhorse in, alone.

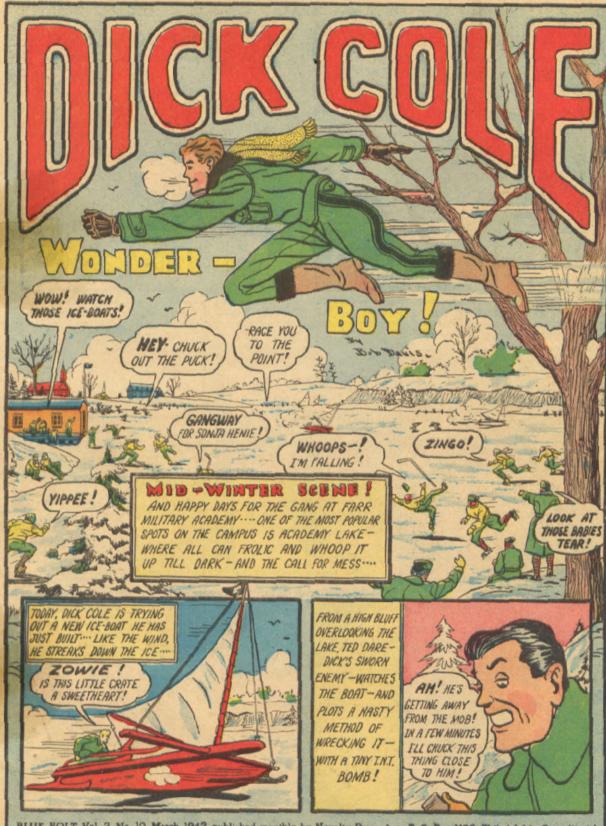
I agree with many people who say Dick Cole should become a quarterly

> Yours truly, John Gilmartin Jersey City, N. J.

-(In reference to a Dick Cole quarterly, John, have you read 4MOST Comics?)

## \$1.00 FOR EACH LETTER PUBLISHED

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SURE ENOUGH! THE POLICE CAR SPEEDS RIGHT PAST THE SPOT!

HA! THERE THEY DON'T WORRY-GO-THE MONKEYS! THEY'LL BE BACK! TOO BAD OUR CAR'S BUSTED NOW - THE WOODS!



WHAT'S DAT?

A LAKE AHEAD?

WHERE THAT SCHOOL

IS-







THE TINY BOMB LANDS JUST BEFORE DICK'S
SPEEDING ICE BORT - BLOWING A GREAT, GAPPING
HOLE IN THE ICE . . . .







DICK'S MOMENTUM
CARRIES HIM FAR UNDER THE
THICK ICE-BLACKNESS ENVELOPS HIM-



NO GOOD!!! -- FILLED WITH PANIC, HE BEGINS TO SWIM MADLY-LOOKING FOR LIGHT ABOVE HIM--





SUDDENLY - A GOOD DISTANCE FROM THE HOLE-DICK FEELS THE BOTTOM UNDER HIS FEET -- QUICKLY HE BRACES HIS BACK AGAINST THE THICK ICE ----



















HEY, BANJO! I GOT AN IDEA!! DIS SCHOOL! IT'S A PERFECT HIDEOUT!! WE COULD TIE-UP THESE KIDS HERE, AND SLIP BACK THERE AND MINGLE WID DE CADETS FOR AWHILE! DA BULLS WOULD NEVER FIND US!

WONDERFUL! I

KNOW! WE'LL TAKE

BLACKIE WID US, AND

MAKE HIM SHOW US

DE ROPES -- GET FOOD

FOR US -- FIND A PLACE

FOR US TO SLEEP!

WHAT! DO YOU THINK I'M CRAZY



WELL, YOU'D BETTER MAKE IT POSSIBLE, TWIRP -- OR WE'LL TURN YOU IN FOR TRYING TO KILL YOUR PAL WID DAT BOMB!! GET DAT!









SO BANJO AND JAKE HAVE FOUND THEMSELVES A NICE COM-FORTABLE HIDE OUT .... THE NEXT DAY THEY FORCE DARE TO BRING THEM FOOD, CIGARS, AND MAGAZINES -WHILE THEY SPRAWL IN SAFE COMFORT IN HIS ROOM ...

















MEANWHILE-BANJO AND JAKE HAVE BECOME BOLDER





















































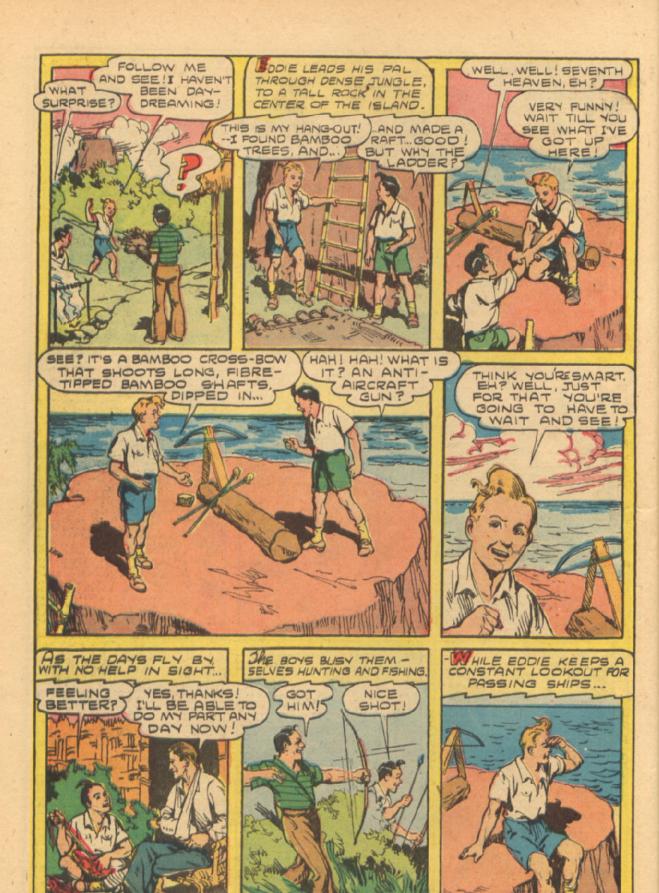




















BUT WOULD EDDIE AND THE BOYS BE SO JUBILANT IF THEY KNEW WHO THE OWN-ERS OF THE LIGHTS WERE?



IN THE NEXT BLUE BOLT!



# DO YOU KNOW .

-THAT Bechuansland Protectorate, a British colony in Africa, has five large negro tribes whose names all begin with Ba-? Try saying these names quickly as a tongue twister, Bamangwato, Bangwaketse, Bamalete, Bakhatla and Batawana. These would even stump the best radio announcer.



-THAT Congo, Belgium's large colony in Africa, printed a set of postage stamps including designs showing flute players, drummers, banjo players and dancing elephants? The same set also show a collector of sap from rubber trees and a witch doctor wearing a fierce mask and carrying the huge spear which the natives used for kill-

ing their human sacrifices in days gone by.

-THAT Captain Cook, who discovered many parts of the British Empire and after whom the Cook Islands have been named, was killed by some of the natives he tried to help? He was one of England's greatest explorers and sailed many thousands of miles in search of land and adventure.





-THAT Queen Isabella II of Spain cut off the head of her Postmaster General because he failed to tell the postal clerks that they must not put cancellation marks on the stamps showing Her Majesty's face? The Queen thought black ink can-

40

cellations on her stamp pictures would be dishonorable.

-THAT the old democratic German Republic issued a postage stamp in 1924 showing a poor man getting dressed? This is the only design ever printed showing the thing that everyone does at least twice a day for as long as he lives.

#### AN APPROVAL APPLICANT

is anyone sending for the stamps advertised on this is anyone sending for the stamps advertised on this page. This means that along with the advertised stamps you send for you will also receive a selection of other stamps from which you may buy any or all you prefer. You must send back the stamps (except those you receive from the stall, together with the money for those you buy, within 10 days after you receive them.

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Meter Brate size Included.

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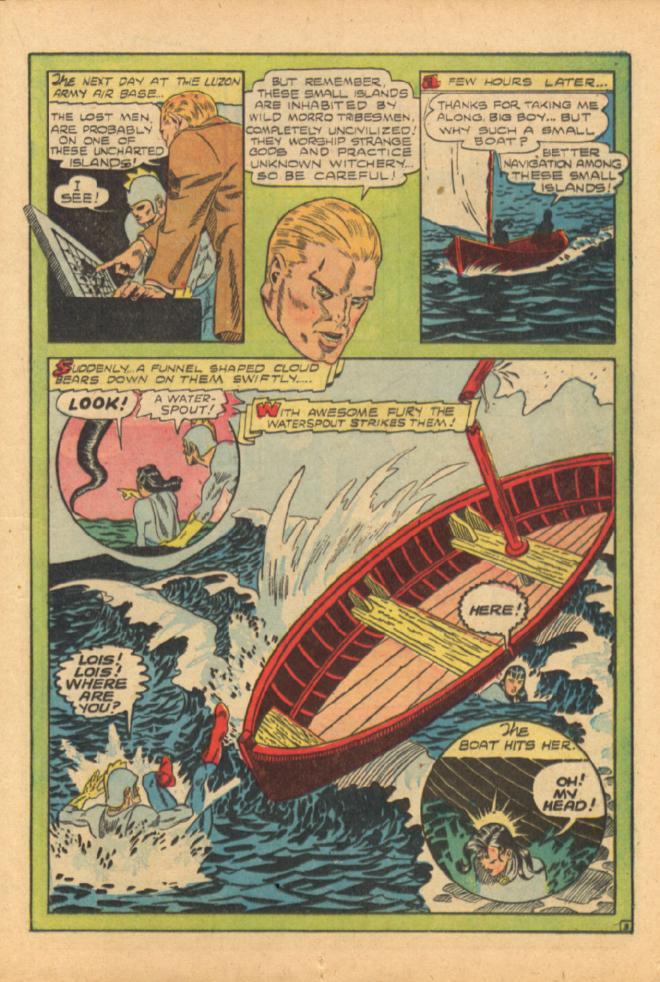
#### ASCENSION-FIII-NIUE

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But BLUE BOLT AND THE PLOTS ARE IN A WEAK CONDITION AND SOON ARE OVER-POWERED AND THROWN IN A BOAT...

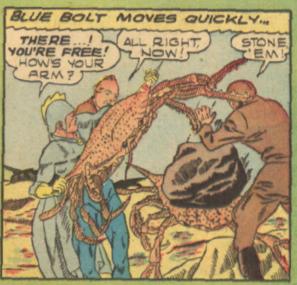


ON THE ROCK OF THE CRAWLING DEATH!

I'LL START A FIRE WITH A SPARK FROM THESE ROCKS...



















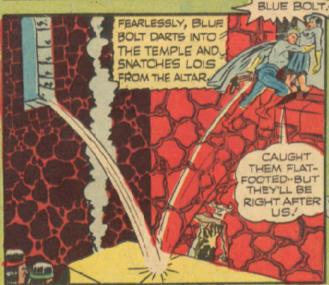
Meanwhile -- 1 THE SACRIFICIAL RITES ARE UNDER WAY--- TO THE CADENCE OF A WEIRD NATIVE CHANT THE HIGH PRIEST IS ABOUT TO MAKE THE SACRIFICE OF LOIS WHOHAS REMAINED UNCONSCIOUS ALL THE TIME ON THE ALTAR



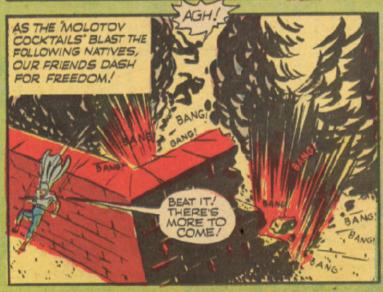








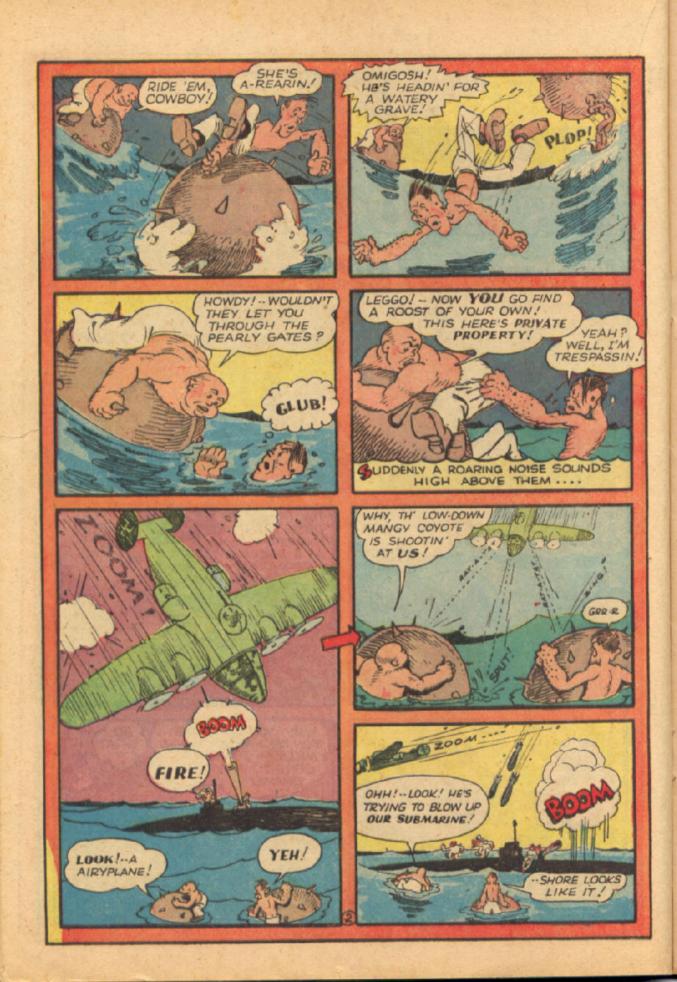


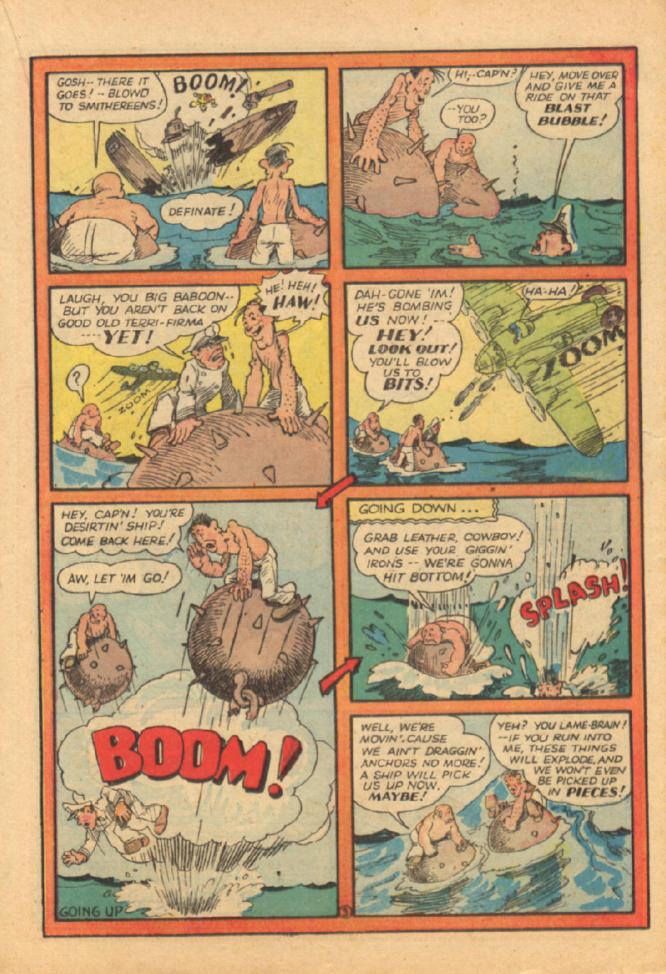






























track, the crowd in the bowl let out a roar of laughter.

"Iinx!" a raucous voice called. "Say your prayers, kid!" somewheels!"

Slim gulped. He was new to the midget racing game and hadn't known what he was letting himself in for until a short time ago. That afternoon he had ridden to the dusty track on his old motorcycle, and drawn up alongside a funny-looking job with a circle "12" on its tail, and a grimy, disgusted-looking fellow bending over the motor. The man looked up and pushed his hat back. "Brother," he said to Slim, "I'd trade this heap for anything with a workable engine."

"Fooling?" Slim grinned.

"Nope!"

"Mister, you've made a trade!" Slim understood now, why the man had smiled so broadly when he said slowly, "I sure have!"-And the transaction was made on the spot. Before he drave away, the fellow looked back. "By the way, this is an outlaw track. You can drive anything, anytime, here."

His ability to make "anything" Circle 12, and when he'd finally what is the matter with this side of the track!" The crowd in

the midget racer onto the steadily, it was nearly race time! looked at him strangely.

Then the wise cracks had started. "Big John" Purcell, the ing it always comes apart! Seems ace of the drivers, came over. like a crackpot, who works for a "Well, well, look what we have junkie, made it out of a couple one else yelled. "It's a coffin on here! The last time this load got dozen wrecks he picked up in a race it took a week-end to around the tracks." locate all the parts!" The group around, snickered.

> ing wire broke and the motor won't stay together!" buried itself in the track?" One guy laughed. "That was rich!"

"Yeah," said another, "once over in Gurfield, the gears slipped into reverse when they were starting her and the kick-back jammed up a whole line and broke a pusher's arm."

Seeing that Slim was annoyed by this, Big John turned to the others. "Let's leave him to his troubles, boys, and tune up. We go on in ten minutes!"

By this time, Slim had the motor purring nicely, and he asked a couple of local lads to help him push.

"Sure," one answered, "if you don't think it'll come apart before it reaches the track." Slim stepped back and looked at the

S SLIM HINES ROLLED gotten it running, more or less buggy anyway?" One of the boys

"Well, nothing exactly, 'cept-

"That ain't all," the other lad of drivers that had gathered put in, "She's a contrary cuss, when she stays together she "Remember the time the bail- won't go, and when she goes she

ELL," SLIM SIGHED, "LET'S GO out and get the trials over with." They pushed the car on the runway and ran it out. The other drivers, who waited to take the trial run, laughed with the crowd.

Big John, leaning on the pit rail, sneered. "Keep outa my way, burn, or I'll run over you!"

That was all that Slim needed. "Listen, pipsqueak," he snapped, "one funny move from you and car. Light blue in color - the I'll climb this jalopy right over chromium trim was a little rusty your frame!-Maybe you're the -a fan-tail gave it a smooth big apple around here, but, I run was Slim's pride and joy, but look, and the Circle 12 on the don't know about it . . . so, if you it took him nearly six hours to blunt snout might make anyone have any brains left in that big get even a cough out of the think it was a class "A" job. "Say, head of yours, stay on your own

# A JINX RODE THE CIRCLE 12 --TILL SLIM HINES POPPED IN AND UNSEATED IT!

the stands heard this, and never swirl around the first turn, three of his tail, but Big John went a big hand.

him," one spectator shouted, "tell ator fell off! him where to get off!" Billy, one of Slim's pushers took him by have to worry about my cooling the arm.

"Listen, mister, Big John's gonna go for you out there, sure as shootin', so watch your step! Nobody can tell him off like that without him getting it back!"

"Thanks, Billy, I'll be watching."

How he got through the trials, Slim never knew. Twice, he almost went through the rail, and once, in the backstretch, he skidded completely around. But, his nerve carried him in, and he made the main event by a tenth of a second.

The announcer was calling for places. Slim found himself fifth. on the inside. He crawled into the tiny bucket and, like a huge snake, the line crawled off. One by one, the engines coughed into life and, so did the engine of the Circle 12. The cars idled around the track twice, and then the starter's flag came down. The race was on!

# THE WHIRL BEGINS

IG JOHN, WHO WAS ON the rail, jumped ahead, and through the dust and smoke at the first turn, Slim found himself in seventh place. For, in the mad

of his nasty driving, gave Slim and had gone through the rail! piled up for the day! He held his position for two laps "That's cleaning his plow for when, without warning, his radi-

> "Well," Slim thought, "I won't system now!" But, on the next lap the wind got under the hood and, before he knew it, Slim saw whether or not it was safe to take a chance and pass. Slim, by this time, was plenty disgusted, him. In the final stretch he riphe was getting nowhere fast, and, losing his racer piece by piece!

Suddenly, out of the corner of his eye, Slim spied Big John pulling up along side of him, and his gone if that guy'll pass me!" He jammed his foot down hard on the gas and fairly flew into the turn! When he came out of it, he looked behind and almost fell out of his seat, half his tail assembly was missing, and Big John was still alongside of him. He saw Big John's front wheel pulling in dangerously close, and he knew Big John was trying to bud?" run him off the track. Down this time all the way. Twice he was bumped by Big John, and each time his luck held. He saw Big John pulling in to hit him again, and the car, as if suddenly finding itself, shot ahead! At the same time, he heard a wrenching sound. He gave a quick look \*Slim grinned-sheepishly! around, saw with a start that Big John's last bump had knocked off the remaining part

having taken to Purcell because cars had skidded to the outside through the rail, himself, and

# SLIM GOES WILD

ROM THE GRANDSTAND it looked as though Slim had his hood go sailing into the in- suddenly gone speed-crazy. He field. The driver on his outside whipped around the turns like a seemed a bit anxious, wongering madman, and flew down the stretches. Slowly, he caught up to the leader and skidded around ped by like a house afire. His crazy jalopy was humming a new song of power. Ridiculous as he looked, sitting strapped in an almost bodyless motor on wheels, disgust turned to anger. "Dog- he was first when the checkered flag came down!

> He made his extra lap as did all the rest of the cars, but for some reason or other, made ten more before he finally slowed up and stopped in the backstretch. A crowd of pitmen rushed over to greet him. After the handshakes, one looked at him quizzically. "But why all the extra laps,

Slim grinned, "Well, the last went his foot on the gas again, time I was bumped, the gas throttle stuck and the breaks no longer worked, so I had to let it rip until I ran out of juice!"

> "How come you didn't throw off the switch, mister?" Someone

> "OH-Never thought of that!"































AT THE BATTLE OF ANTIETAM, THE MINTH HELPED TO STOP LEE'S ATTEMPT TO CARRY THE WAR TO THE NORTH.



TWAS THE NINTH THAT HELPED WIN

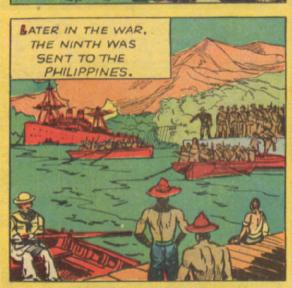










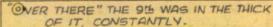




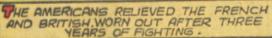


























BRAYO!





















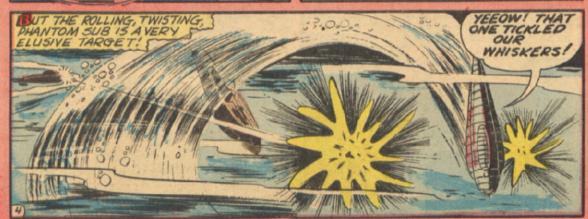


ABOARD THE PHANTOM SUB.





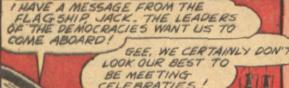














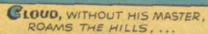






NOW THAT THE PHANTOM CREW IS
IN THE NAVAL INTELLIGENCE, WHAT
ADVENTURES AWAIT
THE PHANTOM SUB
BLUE BOLT COMICS:











GLOUD, WITH HIS SUPERIOR INTELLECT. UNFLINCHINGLY FACES THE ASSAULT. ...



---- AND LEADS HIS NEW SUBJECTS ON THE PATH OF ADVENTURE



IN THE FUST PLACE JED HARRIS! YOU SHOULDN'T TALK WHAT DO YOU OUT LOUD -- MISS



GET OUT OF HERE! YOU WON'T GET THIS RANCH EXCEPT OVER MY DEAD BODY! YOU



GLOUD TRIUMPHS! HE IS KING OF THE WILD HORSES.



EANWHILE, NOT FAR AWAY, A DRAMA UNFOLDS. .

EVER SINCE DADDY DIED JED HARRIS HAS BEEN HOUNDIN ME. HE'S TRYING TO RANCH. OH, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

WA'AL, I KNOWED YOU WUZ ALONE ... THET YOR THET YOR COWBOYS ARE OFF TO MARKET. THOUGHT I'D KEEP YOU COMPANY. FIGURED YOU MIGHT BE REASONABLE AND TURN OVER THIS HERE RANCH, PEACEABLE LIKE.



YOU DONT SCARE ME!









































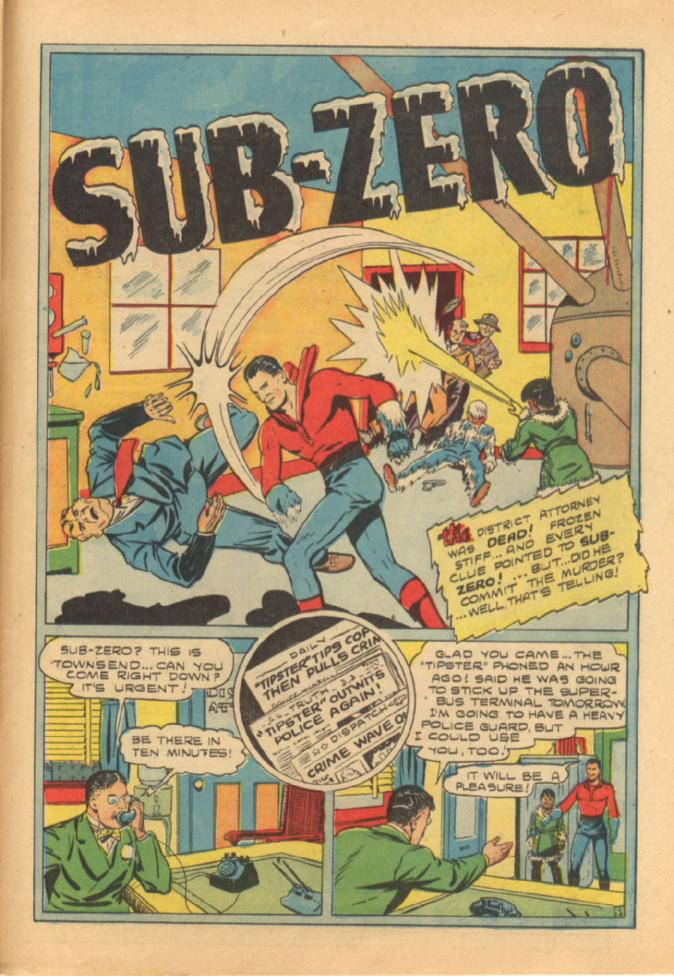
































































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